

ADDITIONAL FEE:

Please charge any insufficiency of fee, or credit any excess, to Deposit Account No. 50-0427.

R E M A R K S

The Office Action issued May 28, 2008 has been received and its contents have been carefully considered.

The applicants herein wish to thank the Examiner in charge of this application, Chuka Ndubizu, and his Supervising Primary Examiner, Steve McCallister, for the courtesy and cooperation they extended applicants' undersigned counsel during the personal interview kindly granted on July 29, 2008. During this interview, applicants' counsel presented a sample of the present invention, a flat solar collector module as well as an accompanying booklet (brochure), and explained the operation of the module.

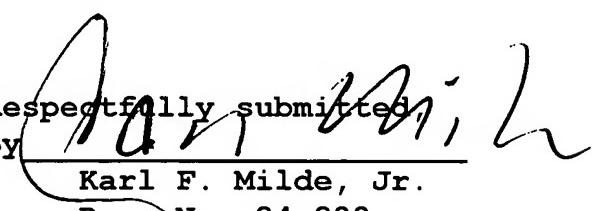
Applicants' counsel also explained the differences between the present invention and the solar collector disclosed in the U.S. Patent No. 5,167,218 to Deakin, as well as the remaining references of record; namely, U.S. Patent No. 4,606,327 to Bloor; U.S. Patent No. 4,517,721 to Graham and U.S. Patent No. 4,191,169 to Hyman. After a

careful review and discussion of all of these materials, applicants' counsel proposed to incorporate the subject matter of claim 15 into claim 1 to recite how the self-supporting sheet metal panels interlock with each other on a roof. The Examiners agreed that such an amendment may distinguish the invention over the prior art of record.

Accordingly, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 15, and claim 15 has been canceled.

Claim 9 has been amended to depend from claim 2, to provide antecedent basis for the word "slots".

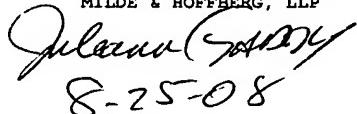
The claims having been amended to more clearly distinguish over the prior art, and to provide antecedent basis for the term "slots" (claim 9), this application is believed to be in condition for immediate allowance. A formal Notice of Allowance is accordingly respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted  
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Services as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on AUGUST 25, 2008

MILDE & HOFFBERG, LLP

  
Julianne S. Milde  
8-25-08